

continues to be our staunch ally and steadfast friend in Europe in our fight against terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my 111,000 Polish American constituents, I am honored to recognize this important anniversary and honor the events in Poland 25 years ago that helped restore freedom and democracy in Poland and throughout Europe.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ELMER M. EVANS

### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 20, 2005*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Elmer M. Evans on his retirement from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals. Mr. Evans' 24 years of contributions to the success of Wyeth has been recognized by many.

Mr. Evans began his climb up the Wyeth ladder as a Medical Sales Representative scouting Philadelphia as his territory. During his career, Elmer has been promoted nine times, each with increased responsibility. In July 2003, Elmer was appointed to the position of Executive Product Director. In this position, Elmer directed the global marketing strategy for one of the company's specialty products. During his career, Elmer has received numerous awards for sales performance and leadership in including the company's coveted Gold Cup and President's Golden Circle Awards, given only to the top 5 percent and 1 percent of sales personnel respectively.

Mr. Evans has been married to his college sweetheart, formerly Tanya M. Allen, for 20 years. Elmer and Tanya are the proud parents of two boys, Darren, 15, and Colin, 13.

Through Mr. Evans's hard work and dedication to his career and family, he retires with many great accomplishments. In recognition of his years of service to Wyeth, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him on his retirement.

### RANGEL FELLOWS

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 20, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share an important and exciting program with my colleagues today. The Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Program was initiated from my desire that the State Department's Diplomatic Corps abroad would reflect the rich diversity represented by its people at home. The program presents young adults from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to learn, participate, and become a part of the United States' diplomatic relations.

The Honorable Gentleman from New York, Mr. SERRANO, has provided immeasurable support and commitment to this program and was of extraordinary service in commencing the program in 2001. I want to again thank him for his valuable contributions to the program.

Earlier this week, I met with the ten extremely talented Rangel Fellows who are enrolled in various graduate programs across the

country with a focus on international relations and related academic programs. It was tremendously rewarding to speak to and hear from these extraordinarily intelligent, enthusiastic, well-prepared, and committed young people; many of whom have already completed Overseas State Department Summer Internships through the program. These ten fellows are currently serving in the congressional offices of Representatives ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA (Fellows Melanie Bonner and Natalie Waugh), HAROLD E. FORD, Jr. (Fellow Rachel Hawkins), BARBARA LEE (Fellow Fonta Gilliam), ROBERT MENENDEZ (Fellow Breanna Green), GREGORY MEEKS (Fellow Zainab Zaid), DONALD M. PAYNE (Fellow Jared Yancey), JOSÉ E. SERRANO (Fellow David Lewis), as well as my own office (Fellow Andrea Corey). Fellow Candace Bates is completing an internship at the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues and friends for the invaluable experiences that they are providing and for personally hosting a Rangel Fellow in their offices. The experiences to be obtained in here in the House of Representatives will provide insight that is a special and unique part of this program. This Capitol Hill exposure and experience will be particularly useful as they enter the State Department as junior Foreign Service Officers. Thank you for the wonderful opportunities that you are providing this summer.

It is with gratitude that I also thank Representatives BERKLEY, CHRISTENSEN, CONYERS, HYDE, KILPATRICK, MENENDEZ, MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and SERRANO for hosting fellows last year, the inaugural session of the 2004 Rangel Fellows Congressional Program.

I am extremely proud that there are currently 22 Rangel Fellows enrolled in graduate schools across the country, with a current intake of ten graduate students per year. Nine of these students are serving in internships in U.S. embassies in locations around the world, including Pretoria, Luanda, Nairobi, Maseru, Dakar, Vientiane, Tegucigalpa, and Singapore. The diverse body of fellows includes Afro-Americans, Cambodian-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, Asian-Americans, and Caucasian Americans and draws on a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

Earlier this month, I was extremely grateful and proud to be greeted in Singapore by two Rangel Fellows, Chelsa Wheeler who was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Singapore and Christen Rhodes, who was assigned to Vientiane. I met and chatted with these two amazing young women while I was awaiting the report from the Olympics Site Selection Committee.

This program is a successful collaboration between the Congress, the State Department, and Howard University, which administers the program with a cross-section of colleges and universities across the country. Former Secretary of State Colin L. Powell introduced the program on May 17, 2002 at a State Department ceremony and most recently, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice expressed her profound support for continuing and expanding this initiative.

Although the program has several components, the two key components are the Fellows Program and the Summer Enrichment Program, SEP, a six-week program designed to expose students to foreign affairs careers

and stimulate stronger interest in the Foreign Service. Approximately thirty students participate in the SEP each year and earn nine semester hours upon successful completion. Since 2003, over 53 undergraduate students have participated in the SEP, with a number being motivated to apply for Graduate Rangel Fellowships.

In the last 2 years, the components of the Rangel Program were reviewed and evaluated by the State Department and were found to satisfy the stringent requirements for inclusion in the Department's prestigious Diplomacy Fellows Program. This milestone achievement has included the program in the distinguished ranks of such programs as the Presidential Management Interns, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Boren, Fascell, and Pickering Fellows Programs. As a result, fellows who successfully complete the Rangel Program and the State Department requirements will automatically receive employment offers and appointments to the Foreign Service.

I am extremely proud of this program and its contributions to this country. Not only does it expose youth from various backgrounds and experiences to the importance and significance of international relations, it creates the opportunity to diversify our diplomatic corps and to assist in their employment and service to our country. We cannot afford to overlook or underutilize any of our valuable human resources here. In America, diversity is our strength. We have so much to offer in sharing our experience and creating a harmonious society. With our Nation's growing international involvement, there could be no better time than now to attract the very best, the brightest, and the most diverse talent available to represent the American people and champion our interests in every corner of the globe.

I submit the following article from today's Roll Call on the program and the Fellows' recent visit to my office. It was indeed an honor to meet this talented group of America's future.

#### FELLOWSHIP FOSTERS DIVERSITY: RANGEL FELLOWSHIP FOCUSES ON FOREIGN SERVICE

Since 2003, Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.) has been the impetus behind a program at Howard University designed to increase diversity in the State Department Foreign Service.

"Ever since I've been in Congress," Rangel explained in an interview, "the absence of minorities in our embassies and official offices has been astounding." Every time he brought it up to a Secretary of State, however, he was told that the problem was lack of interest in the minority community.

"They said the kids couldn't pass the test, and that kids weren't interested," Rangel said. "Everyone of them would have a meeting with me talking about change, and then leave office."

That cycle changed with Madeleine Albright, President Bill Clinton's (D) final Secretary of State.

"She agreed that she would entertain a proposal, so I went to my first administrative assistant, Patrick Swygert, who had become president of Howard University." Along with former Secretary of State Colin Powell, a member of Howard's Board of Trustees,

Swygert drafted a proposal to create the Rangel Fellowship.

The fellowship, which pays students \$28,000 a year to cover tuition and room and board, requires participants get a two-year master's